

DIFFRACTION OPTICAL ELEMENT

Cited reference 1

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Abstract

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide the diffraction optical element which has high diffraction efficiency and a scattering function by using a diffraction grating set in simple pattern.

SOLUTION: This diffraction optical element is divided into mosaic components 2, which consist of grating units 2' arranged in a mosaic shape; and linear diffraction gratings 6 are formed on the respective grating units 2'. In this case, the grating intervals and grating directions of the linear diffraction gratings 6 are different according to the arrangement positions of the grating units 2' on the components 2 and also set so that when illumination light 3 of specific wavelength is made incident on the components 2 from a specific direction, diffracted lights 4 from the grating units 2' are made incident on different areas on a specific observation surface 5 corresponding to the arrangement positions of the grating units 2' in the components 2.

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